

and the University of Arkansas School of Law, where he earned a master of laws degree in agricultural law.

Mark served the people of Arkansas as general counsel for the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission for nearly 20 years. He continued his public service as the chief of water development with the natural resources division of the department of agriculture. In this role, Mark oversaw a variety of crucial infrastructure programs including the Arkansas Clean Water Revolving Loan Program, the Arkansas Drinking Water Revolving Loan Program, the Arkansas Water Development Fund, and the Arkansas Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Fund to assist Arkansans with water, wastewater, and solid waste projects. Mark has also served as the state cochair and member of the EPA—State SRF working group and is a former board member and past president of the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities board of directors.

I am grateful for Mark's experience and expertise. His guidance was instrumental in crafting Federal legislation to modernize investment in water infrastructure. The Securing Required Funding for Water Infrastructure Now, or SRF WIN, Act was signed into law in 2018 and is improving access to clean water in Arkansas and across the country. Mark's knowledge in this field was invaluable as my staff and I developed this legislation.

Generations of Arkansans will continue to benefit from Mark's extraordinary efforts to provide quality water infrastructure and further conservation efforts in our State. His dedication to improving the lives of his fellow Arkansans is an inspiration, and I wish him the best of luck in retirement.●

RECOGNIZING IDAHO OPERATION LIFESAVER

● Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, I congratulate Idaho Operation Lifesaver on its 50-year anniversary of working to keep people safe around railroad tracks and railway crossings. Thank you to all those involved with this highway/rail safety effort for advancing rail safety across Idaho and our country.

Idaho Operation Lifesaver was started in Post Falls, ID, in 1972 and was adopted in other States and nationally. According to Idaho Operation Lifesaver, the average number of highway/rail incidents was 12,000 annually when Idaho Operation Lifesaver was created. Idaho Operation Lifesaver is credited with a 43-percent decrease in incidents in its first year following a 6-week public awareness campaign started through cooperative work between then-Idaho Governor Cecil Andrus, the Idaho State Police, and Union Pacific railroad.

This effort is currently supported by 78 volunteers across our great State of Idaho who assist with providing safety presentations to school groups, driver education classes, community mem-

bers, professional drivers, law enforcement officers, and emergency responders. The group's focus on education, engineering, and enforcement is also part of its Officer on a Train Program, employed for the past nearly 30 years to decrease car-train collisions. Through the program, Idaho State Police Troopers and Officers from local police departments work together to stop drivers committing track safety violations to prevent collisions, prevent trespassing on railroad property, and save lives.

Idaho is filled with problem-solvers and doers. So it is no surprise this railway safety effort got its start in our great State. I congratulate Idaho Operation Lifesaver on this significant milestone. I wish all those involved with Idaho Operation Lifesaver well, as you continue to work to keep people safe from rail accidents across our State and Nation.●

RECOGNIZING THE IDAHO FALLS AFRICAN AMERICAN ALLIANCE

● Mr. RISCH. Madam President, Martin Luther King, Jr., dreamed of a world of peace and equality, and honoring his legacy is a central priority of the Idaho Falls African American Alliance, or AAA. Today, I recognize the accomplishments of the Idaho Falls AAA and highlight their 15th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Banquet.

The Idaho Falls AAA was formed in 2006, when a few members of the community became aware of a local African-American high school student in need of funds to travel to a regional debate competition. One of these individuals was the current Idaho Falls AAA president, David Snell. Growing up, his mother told him, "You should never be a part of a community that does not feel your presence. It is your personal responsibility to make sure your community is better because you were a part of it." The group worked together to raise \$300 and sponsored the trip for the talented debater.

This experience sparked a movement as the group realized they could make a difference in the community and help other kids in need. AAA members also recognized an opportunity to promote diversity in the community, expand awareness of the contributions of African Americans and other minorities, and begin to build a sense of understanding between cultures and ethnicities.

Martin Luther King, Jr., influenced their mission, and they soon organized an annual MLK Banquet to provide the community an opportunity to learn from prominent African-American leaders. Over the past 15 years, guests have included Dr. Walter Massey, past president of Morehouse College; Pete Miller, former Undersecretary of Energy; Freeman Hrabowski, voted one of TIME magazine's 100 Most Influential People of 2012; and Idaho State Senator Cherie Buckner-Webb.

This year's AAA banquet will feature keynote speaker USAF Capt. Daniel

"Fuzz" Walker, the first African-American pilot qualified to fly the F-22 stealth fighter plane, and grandson of one of the original Tuskegee Airmen.

Ms. Michelle Amos, system engineer for NASA's Perseverance, the 2020 Mars rover, will also deliver remarks over Zoom. Ms. Amos won an All-Star Award at NASA's Women of Color Government and Defense Technology Awards Conference, is the former chairperson of NASA's Black Employee Strategy Team, and is currently a public affairs spokesperson for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The organization has faced some challenges but has also received generous support from the Idaho Falls community. Many local businesses provide donations and services making the MLK Banquet possible each year. The proceeds from the annual event are used to support their mission to "further the educational, economic, cultural and development growth of the Idaho Falls African American Community."

The Idaho Falls AAA serves to bring people together in times that can feel divisive. I commend the AAA and its membership for its work to help make Idaho Falls a better community.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Swann, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:18 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 25. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the lying in state of the remains of the Honorable Harry Mason Reid, Jr., a Senator from the State of Nevada.

S. Con. Res. 26. Concurrent resolution providing for the use of the catafalque situated in the Exhibition Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center in connection with memorial services to be conducted in the rotunda of the Capitol for the Honorable Harry Mason Reid, Jr., a Senator from the State of Nevada.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to H. Res. 862, resolving that the Clerk of the House inform the Senate that a quorum of the House is present and that the House is ready to proceed with business.